

couldn't get anything out of me."

"Another allegation in the petition is that Mrs. Riehl was in the confidence of Rev. Mr. Hall and referred to him as 'My Old Buddy.'"

The petition further sets forth that Mrs. Riehl told her husband that Dr. Hall left his home on September 14, 1922, taking a large amount of money with him and telling her (Mrs. Riehl) to tell Mrs. Hall he would be gone away for a couple of days.

The papers were filed immediately after a conference of Governor Moore, Attorney General Katzenbach and Prosecutor John Toolan of Middlesex county. Toolan and a man believed to be Hekeler called on the Governor early in July, and the Governor requested Attorney General Katzenbach to join the conference. Whether the State will reopen its probe of the four-year-old murder case as a result of the new developments, could not be learned today.

It was said this morning that the affidavit was placed on file in Chancery, and was a matter of public record. He refused to discuss its contents, although admitting that Riehl's petition contained statements apparently intended to shed new light on the murder case.

Interest in the Hall-Mills case was renewed today by a story published in the Daily Mirror and based upon a petition filed by Arthur S. Riehl against Louise Geist Riehl, a former maid in the home of Rev. Edward W. Hall, for the annulment of his marriage. The Daily Mirror story declared Riehl alleged his wife had revealed to him certain information that might lead to the murder mystery being solved.

Denies Statement

"My husband's statement in the Daily Mirror, with the exception of the first sentence which states that we were married on September 2, 1924, by Recorder John W. Reed of Bound Brook, is an absolute falsehood," declared Louise Geist Riehl when seen this morning by a Daily Home News representative, who visited her at her home at Davison's Mills. "I never lived with my husband, and don't intend to."

"My attorney, Russell E. Watson, advised me to refuse to have anything to do with the Daily Mirror and their story, and I acted on his suggestion. I was requested to go before Prosecutor Toolan and the Daily Mirror last week and face my husband. This I refused to do at my lawyer's advice, who informed me that if I attended any conferences he would have to be present. The conference was to be held in Jersey City, but I did not attend."

"I have never been served with any annulment suit papers, and know nothing about any such proceeding."

She said her husband now lived in Roselle Park.

"I have nothing to say. I don't want to talk to anyone," Mrs. Hall declared when asked this morning about the story.

Prosecutor John E. Toolan this afternoon in a statement to newspapermen emphasized the fact that he had no power to cause the arrest of anyone in connection with the Hall-Mills murders.

He stated that he had been shown what purported to be a copy of the petition for annulment filed by Arthur S. Riehl with the Chancery Court and that it contained references to Hall and also to the murder itself.

He said that the affidavit accompanying the petition was not sworn to but he was told that an affidavit

Crossby street warehouses and found, they say, the stolen clothing as well as \$20,000 worth of silk hosiery and \$50,000 worth of silk in bolts and draperies and linens.

containing the same facts had later been sworn to by Riehl.

Asked if he had tried to ascertain whether the statements in the affidavit were true Toolan stated that he had. He said he had requested Louise Geist Riehl to come to his office and arrange for an interview on the case. She came to his office last Wednesday but when he tried to persuade her to go elsewhere so that the conference would not attract attention she flatly refused. Mrs. Riehl has agreed to go to his office with counsel for examination at any time.

Prosecutor Toolan explained his desire to have the examination elsewhere by saying that the only way he could expect success in his investigation of the case was by having an absolute lack of publicity.

The unsigned affidavit specifically stated that she together with Mrs. Hall and William Stevens drove in the Hall car to the scene of the murder on September 14, so the Prosecutor stated.

Prosecutor Toolan stated that when the case was being investigated, immediately after the murder Prosecutor Stricker had taken the attitude that no matter what he did he could not dictate the course of action since the case was a Somerset county case, and the case still remains a Somerset county case.

Prosecutor Toolan stated that perhaps if he made a request to Prosecutor Bergen of Somerset county for the arrest of Louise Geist Riehl as a material witness in the case that the request would be acknowledged and the girl arrested but that he did not think he would make such a request.

He said: "My position in this case is simply that I'm not going to bear the burden for the investigation. I am under no legal responsibility for the investigation; the responsibility falls on the Somerset authorities and it's up to them."

"I believe that the data collected in the investigation was shown to Prosecutor Bergen of Somerset county and he stated that he would not reopen the case unless there was sufficient evidence to warrant it and that he didn't think the evidence thus far warranted reopening the case."

The only other manner in which the case can be reopened according to Prosecutor Toolan, is by Justice Parker of the Supreme Court requesting Attorney General Katzenbach to proceed with an investigation or appoint someone to conduct it.

Assurance was given by Prosecutor Toolan that he will endeavor to verify the statements contained in the petition and that if he does verify them he will turn the information over to Prosecutor Bergen of Somerset county.

County Detective Joseph Hanlon of Somerset county told a Home News representative that he knew nothing of the Hall-Mills investigation, and that as far as he knew nothing new had been brought to the attention of the prosecutor's office. Prosecutor Francis Bergen is at present at Charleston Lake, Ont., on a fishing trip. Former County Detective Charles Totten could not be located.

Assistant Prosecutor Swade stated that his office knew nothing about any new investigation.

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